thrust area) especially seasonal fruits since processed foods have to be supplied throughout the year and it takes 2-3 months to manufacture these items; and

(b) what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHM DATT): (a) and (b) The period of 9 months for fulfilment of the export obligation for export of products other than Engineering items and Cassettes, has been fixed in consultation with the technical authorities concerned regarding the element of time required for manufacture/processing of these export products. However, requests for further extension in the export obligation, when received, from exporters including exporters of processed foods, are considered depending upon the merits of each case.

Unearthing of Foreign Exchange Racket in Andhra Pradesh

1268. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Enforcement Directorate and the Andhra Pradesh Police from Hyderabad South Zone have recently arrested some persons engaged in foreign exchange racket and have also arrested some persons who came from Gulf countries in this connection; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Andhra Pradesh Police, South Zone apprehended 5 persons in a car with U.S. $ 1,20,200. The foreign currency was subsequently seized and all the five persons were arrested on 18-5-86 by the Enforcement Directorate. The arrested persons were remanded to judicial custody till 2-6-86.

In another case, the Directorate of Enforcement with the assistance of Police at Hyderabad intercepted a bus and seized from a Bombay bound passenger S. Rls. 17,500, UAE Dirhams 3,500; Oman Rls. 100 and US $ 100. The passenger was arrested on 21-5-86 and remanded to judicial custody for 15 days. In connection with these cases no person from the Gulf countries was arrested.

Supply of loan forms in Hindi to the Nationalised Banks

1269. SHRI VALAMPURI JOHN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nationalised banks have been supplied all their loan forms only in 'HINDI';

(b) whether this has caused difficulties to the customers in non-Hindi speaking States; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) In pursuance to Official Language Policy of Government, public sector banks have been advised to prepare their cheques, pass books account opening forms, loan application forms, etc. both in Hindi and English and wherever necessary/feasible additionally in the Regional language also.

In the interest of better service to their customers, bank branches do endeavour to deal with them in local language wherever necessary.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.